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ESTI CONTROL NO. **AL 46695**CV NO. 1 OF 1 PAGES**Technical Note****1965-26****M. Athans****Solution of the Matrix Equation**

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t)X(t) + X(t)B(t) + U(t)$$

*ESL***29 June 1965**

Prepared under Electronic Systems Division Contract AF 19(628)-500 by

Lincoln Laboratory

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Lexington, Massachusetts

*ADO 4618392*

The work reported in this document was performed at Lincoln Laboratory, a center for research operated by Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with the support of the U.S. Air Force under Contract AF 19(628)-500.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
LINCOLN LABORATORY

SOLUTION OF THE MATRIX EQUATION

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t)$$

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TECHNICAL NOTE 1965-26

29 JUNE 1965

LEXINGTON

MASSACHUSETTS

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this note is to state the solution to the inhomogeneous matrix differential equation $\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t)$.

Accepted for the Air Force
Stanley J. Wisniewski
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Lincoln Laboratory Office

I. TERMINOLOGY

Suppose that we are given the time varying $n \times n$ matrices $A(t)$, $B(t)$, $U(t)$. We shall assume that

- a. the elements of $A(t)$ and $B(t)$ are continuous functions of the time t
- b. the elements of $U(t)$ are piecewise continuous functions of t .

We shall seek the solution of the matrix differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t) \quad (1)$$

subject to the initial condition

$$X(t_0) = X_0 \quad (2)$$

where $X(t)$ is an $n \times n$ matrix.

II. THE HOMOGENEOUS CASE

Bellman in Reference [1] (page 175) considers the homogeneous equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) \quad (3)$$

subject to the initial condition

$$X(t_0) = X_0 \quad (4)$$

His result is that the solution of (3) is given by the relation

$$X(t) = \Phi(t; t_0) X_0 \Psi(t; t_0) \quad (5)$$

where $\Phi(t; t_0)$ is a nonsingular fundamental matrix which satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Phi(t; t_0) = A(t) \Phi(t; t_0); \Phi(t_0; t_0) = I \quad (6)$$

and where $\Psi(t; t_0)$ is a nonsingular fundamental matrix which satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Psi(t; t_0) = \Psi(t; t_0) B(t); \Psi(t_0; t_0) = I \quad (7)$$

III. THE INHOMOGENEOUS CASE

We claim that the solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t) \quad (8)$$

with $X(t_0) = X_0$ is given by

$$X(t) = \Phi(t; t_0) \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) U(\tau) \Psi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) d\tau \right] \Psi(t; t_0) \quad (9)$$

To see this, differentiate (9) with respect to t to obtain (we use dots to indicate differentiation) the relations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{X}(t) &= \dot{\Phi}(t; t_0) \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) U(\tau) \Psi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) d\tau \right] \Psi(t; t_0) \\ &\quad + \Phi(t; t_0) \Phi^{-1}(t; t_0) U(t) \Psi^{-1}(t; t_0) \Psi(t; t_0) \\ &\quad + \Phi(t; t_0) \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) U(\tau) \Psi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) d\tau \right] \dot{\Psi}(t; t_0) \\ &= A(t) \underbrace{\Phi(t; t_0) \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) U(\tau) \Psi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) d\tau \right] \Psi(t; t_0)}_{X(t)} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\Phi(t; t_0) \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) U(\tau) \Psi^{-1}(\tau; t_0) d\tau \right] \Psi(t; t_0)}_{X(t)} B(t) + U(t) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

and, so,

$$\dot{X}(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t) \quad (11)$$

IV. TIME INVARIANT CASE

If A and B are constant matrices, then

$$\Phi(t; t_0) = e^{A(t-t_0)} \quad (12)$$

$$\Psi(t; t_0) = e^{B(t-t_0)} \quad (13)$$

and, so, the solution reduces to

$$X(t) = e^{A(t-t_0)} \left[X_0 + \int_{t_0}^t e^{-A(\tau-t_0)} U(\tau) e^{-B(\tau-t_0)} d\tau \right] e^{B(t-t_0)} \quad (14)$$

REFERENCE

1. R. Bellman, Introduction to Matrix Analysis, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1960.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R&D		
(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified)		
1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author) Lincoln Laboratory, M.I.T.		2a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Unclassified
		2b. GROUP None
3. REPORT TITLE Solution of the Matrix Equation $\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t)$		
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates) Technical Note		
5. AUTHOR(S) (Last name, first name, initial) Athans, Michael		
6. REPORT DATE 29 June 1965	7a. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 7	7b. NO. OF REFS 1
8a. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO. AF 19(628)-500	9a. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S) Technical Note 1965-26	
b. PROJECT NO.		
c. None	9b. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)	
d.	ESD-TDR-65-262	
10. AVAILABILITY/LIMITATION NOTICES None		
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES None	12. SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY Air Force Systems Command, USAF	
13. ABSTRACT The purpose of this note is to state the solution to the inhomogeneous matrix differential equation $\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = A(t) X(t) + X(t) B(t) + U(t)$.		
14. KEY WORDS matrix algebra differential equations functions		

